

**WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY**  
**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**  
**BASIC COURSE INFORMATION**

**COURSE TITLE:** Psychology of the Exceptional Child  
**COURSE NUMBER:** PSY 333

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides information and strategies for individuals working with exceptional children. Emphasis is on identification, assessment, and intervention appropriate to various types of exceptionalities, as well as the impact of these exceptionalities on the social-emotional development of the child. The student will:

A

- A-1 Describe various exceptionalities such as intellectual disability, giftedness, and learning disabilities.
- A-2 Identify and explain the inherent characteristics of each exceptionality.
- A-3 Discuss its specific impact upon the individual and the family.

**GOAL B:**

The student will recognize the characteristics of and diagnostic techniques commonly used to assess individuals during early childhood.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- B-1 Identify various primary prevention techniques (genetic counseling and

**GOAL C:**

The student will understand the role of each team member involved in the diagnosis and treatment of children with developmental differences.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- C-1 Identify each team member such as parent, child, teacher, and psychologist.
- C-2 Identify the role of the individual with the team and how that changes over time.
- C-3 Explain his/her specific function and involvement with the child.
- C-4 Describe the team development of an IEP.

**GOAL D:**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of developmental theory as it applies to the education of exceptional learners.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- D-1 Explain the developmental theory of education as applied to non-exceptional learners.
- D-2 Explain how learning ability, as well as the method of education, is altered for exceptional learners.

**GOAL E:**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of current state and federal regulations which govern the practice of special education.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- E-1 Identify key legislation pertaining to special education.
- E-2 Understand the impact of legislation on school resources and special education programs.
- E-3 Explain the impact of activism on legislation.

**GOAL F:**

The student will demonstrate an awareness of the impact of community and society upon individuals with exceptionalities.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- F-1 Identify community resources that are available and how to access them.

